



Dealing with climate induced migration

Finding durable solutions

KUNGSBROPLAN 2, 112 27 STOCKHOLM

12th OF APRIL 08.30–10.05

ABOUT THE EVENT

Climate change threatens the most basic human needs, from food and water to human settlement patterns. Climate change is expected to trigger increased population movements within and across borders, as a result of increasingly extreme weather events, sea-level rise and the acceleration of environmental degradation. In addition, Climate change will have an impact on livelihoods, public health, food security, and water availability. This in turn will have an effect on human mobility, likely leading to a substantial increase of migration and the displacement of people.

New Zealand have recently shown willingness to take a 'pragmatic and humane approach' to climate driven migration by proposing to establish a humanitarian visa for 'climate refugees'. Whilst not considered specifically for 'climate refugees', the European Parliament has called on the European Commission to present a legislative proposal on European Humanitarian visas.

Fores will this year, together with Mr Hans van Mierlo Stichting and the European Liberal Forum (ELF) shed light on the issue of climate induced migration through the project 'Dealing with climate induced migration – the right to stay, the right to protection and the right to leave'. The projects aim is to raise awareness of climate induced migration and how it relates to the current International and European legal framework. This seminar is the first part of the project and where we through an open seminar with inputs from experts and stakeholders aim to initiate a pragmatic and nuanced discussion about possible solutions lying ahead. Building on the report 'Dealing with climate induced migration – finding durable solutions – humanitarian visas', this seminar will focus on the existing legal framework in the European Union and the lack of adequate protection for migrants affected by climate change. What are the benefits and drawbacks of a broader European protection definition and could humanitarian visas be the solution for the protection of 'climate refugees'?

EVENT SCHEDULE

12 04 2019

08:30 Coffee and registration

08:45 Welcome

Therese Lindström, Director of the Migration and Integration, FORES

08:50 Climate-driven migration; significance, magnitude and the current legal aspects

Matthew Scott, international lawyer and researcher at Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

09:02 Humanitarian Visas: Europe's response to climate-driven migration? What are the benefits, challenges and drawbacks?

Adam Reuben, author of the published report 'Dealing with climate induced solutions – finding durable solutions' and MRes at the University of Bristol in Sustainable Future, Master of Laws (LL.M) in International Law from the University of west of England.



09:15 Panel discussion with experts: How can we address the phenomenon of climate induced migration? Does the current international framework for protection hold for future challenges? What are the future challenges and opportunities that lie ahead? What is your advice to the politicians?

Matthew Scott, Adam Reuben and **Henrik Nordentoft**, Regional Representative Northern Europe UNHCR

09:30 Panel discussion with European MPs: How is the European Union addressing the challenge of climate-driven migration?

Cecilia Wikström (ALDE), **Fredrick Federley** (ALDE), **Bodil Valero** (Greens/EFA) and **Linnea Engström** (Greens/EFA)

Moderator: Therese Lindström, Director of the Migration and Integration, FORES

09:50 Questions from the audience

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